

WAUKESHA COUNTY

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

August 27, 2008

In Attendance:

Mr. Richard Bolte; Department Of Public Works
Mr. Tom Heydel; Wisconsin DOT Highway Engineering Representative
Ms. Susie Just; PARC Task Force
Lieutenant Larry LaFavor; Chairman, Traffic Safety Coordinator
Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz; DOT Bureau of Transportation Safety
Lieutenant Russel Paar; Town of Oconomowoc Police Department Representative
Sergeant Kenneth Pileggi; Village of Mukwonago Police Department Representative
Sergeant Brian Ripplinger; City of Pewaukee Police Department Representative

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant Larry LaFavor at 2:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Sergeant Brian Ripplinger, of the City of Pewaukee Police Department made a motion to approve the minutes, and Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant Larry LaFavor seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved.

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT

Weekly Fatality Report – Monday, August 25, 2008

Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz stated crashes are at an all-time low. Year-to-date fatalities for bicyclists have surpassed last year, having 7 for 2008 and 5 for 2007. Wisconsin year-to-date accidents totaled 351, and Wisconsin year-to-date fatalities totaled 378.

Wisconsin Department Of Transportation - Drivers and Vehicles

This included statistics of fatalities by county as of August 25, 2008. Waukesha County ranks 16 in year-to-date statistics for the quarter.

Law of the Month

April Law of the Month -----Wisconsin's "Absolute Sobriety Law" means not a drop of alcohol for drivers under 21.

May Law of the Month ----- Drivers must yield to pedestrians.

June Law of the Month ----- Save money by slowing down

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT CONTINUED

Potential for Deer Crashes is high in June

In four of the last five years, June ranked as the worst or second worst month for motorists' injuries from deer crashes.

Click-It or Ticket Campaign

Click-It or Ticket (CIOT) is the most successful seatbelt enforcement campaign ever, helping create the highest national seatbelt usage rate of 82 percent.

Results of AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's telephone survey of U.S. households (October 2007 to January 2008)

Drunk driving is first on the list of the most serious traffic safety issues. Safety ranks fifth on the list of national issues people are concerned about, behind gas prices, health care, crime, and the economy. However safety is first on the list of issues people have confidence in the government's ability to do something about.

GDL/teen driving safety

Based on the first three full years of the GDL restrictions (2001 to 2003), the number of 16-year-old drivers involved in crashes has decreased.

Final year-end 2007 Crash Statistics

Statistics from the Wisconsin Department Of Transportation show from the years 2002 through 2007 there were 126,324 total crashes, with an average of 709 fatal crashes; 38,062 injury-related crashes, and 87,554 property damage accidents. It also shows statistics for other types of crashes, such as pedestrian, bicyclists, motorcycle, alcohol-related, speed-related, etc.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

- PARC Task Force
Susie Just passed along highlights from the PARC event on DVD's to Andrea Loeffelholz. They will also be shared with Mukwonago's driver's education program. Recent school budgets have diminished highway safety programs, however, some private driver's education companies will allow officers to come in and speak to the students.
- Town of Oconomowoc Police Department
Lieutenant Russell Paar, from the Town of Oconomowoc Police Department, stated, with the support of the Traffic Safety Commission, he is planning on talking with Representative to the State Assembly Joel Kleefisch for clarification of legislation reference a fatal traffic accident on 04-25-08, on northbound Highway 67 at Pabst Road.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS

- Chairman Larry LaFavor reported that the Waukesha Sheriff's Department had two fatalities, as follows:

- Date of Accident: 06-11-08

- Location: I-94 westbound, .40 mile east of Brookfield Road

- A 2005 Honda Pilot was slowing down in a construction zone, and a 2008 Harley Davidson motorcycle did not react in time, collided with Honda, lost control, and went down on its left side. The motorcycle and its operator then separated, with its operator rolling multiple times before coming to rest adjacent to the median wall. The operator of the motorcycle, a 47-year-old male, died several days later.

- Date of Accident: 07-06-08

- Location: I-94, .2 miles east of Bluemound Road

- A father and son were picking up furniture that fell off a truck, and both were hit by a Volkswagen Jetta as they were picking it up from the roadway. The 21-year-old son was fatally injured. Speed may be a contributing factor in this accident.

- One fatality from the City of Pewaukee, as follows:

- Date of Accident: 07-14-08

- Location: CTH F at I-94 westbound on-ramp

- A Mitsubishi, four-door, failed to yield, and turned in front of a dump truck, which was pushed into a guardrail and then struck a signal post. A six-year-old male, the rear seat passenger, died on the scene. There have been previous problems at this intersection, in which changes will have to be made.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 2:00 p.m., at the City of Waukesha Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

Sergeant Kenneth Pileggi, from the Village of Mukwonago Police Department, made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Sergeant Brian Ripplinger, from the City of Pewaukee Police Department. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

NOTE: As of 08-04-08, Vice-Chairman Paul Barthel has taken another position and no longer will be the Vice-Chairman of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission. He stated, "It has been a pleasure working with all of you over the past five years and please feel free to use me as a resource until my replacement is chosen. Thanks."

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gregesich
Waukesha County Sheriff's Department

(MINUTES APPROVED ON 11-12-08)